HELPES TO 25.
HV MILIATION.

BY
ROBERT BOLTON.
AND
Published before his death.

Thethird Edition.

I AM E S. 4. 10.

Humble your selves in the fight of the Lord, and bee (ball lift you up.



Printed by The. Cotes, for Michael Sparke, dwelling at the blue Bible in Greene
Arbor. 1 6 3 3.

HVMILLATION.

BY

ROBERT BOLTON

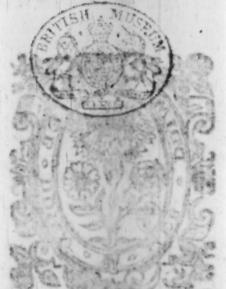
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cannot but want much beauty and in-

To the Reader.



Here commend unto thee Christian Reader, a table of Repentance, now put into a little Trad, colleded

from that grave, learned, and godly Divine, Mr Robert Bolton. I could have been e content to have stayed the publishing thereof, untill such time in which the Author might have been e prevailed with to print it; for there

The Epistle

cannot but want much beauty and lustre, which it might have had, if it had beene set forth or perused to bee fitted for the Presse by him that first gave life unto it. But being inforced to it by the importunity of many well affected, both farre and neere; and I unwilling to have such a precious fountaine sealed up, considering the good that might redound to many in the meane time by it: Fresolved by the Authors leave, no longer to ingrosse the same to a private use, but to impart it to a publike good; especially considering first, bow few are acquainted with the right nature of Humiliation, and Repentance, no more than Nicodemus was with regeneration: that though many boast of it, few have it, when alas it's plaine, without true Repentance, there

rebre to the Reader. on

there is no salvation. Now this table having so perspicuously unfolded the nature of this grace, those that have a beginning of it, may from hence adde an increase to their store; and they that mant it, may here see the way and meanes of obtaining it. Secondly, the extraordinary exercise of fasting and prayer, a duty of precious account amongst Gods Children, which hath alwayes beene wonderfully blest with a happy successe; in so much as albeit their ordinary prayers return not empty without a blefsing, yet respectively to those prayers which are joyned with fasting, they seeme barren and blasted, which otherwise are fruitfull and full eared. How then could I withhold this, which by experience and the judgment of judicious Christians, cannot but bee

The Epistle to the Reader.

bee of speciall use and belpe unto such a blessed and successefull ordinance? Thirdly, these times call for it, to fast and pray, and cry mightily unto God by our prayers, that wee may standin the gap, and make up the breach: and from this little Tract wee may receive much belpe in this particular. Wherefore I hope f shall neede no further perswasion for thy gracious acceptance, than that bereby, if the fault bee not thine owne, thou mayest receive much good and comfort to thy soule: which if thou findest, give God the glory, the Author thy thankes, and me thy prayers.

ted, which otherwise are fruitfull and

ment of judicious Christians, compet but

Local in I phose then could I withhold.



relabriation of analysis

HELPES TO HVMILIATION.

Act. 2. 37.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts, and said unto Peter, &c.



NTHESE Wordshere is: First a compunctiof & a thorow wounding their hearts.

booker of Repentance,

Secondly, a confultation, what to

Thirdly, Peters holy counsell; 4-

3

mend your lives, and be baptized,

From the first, in that these men when they had heard of the greatnesse of their finne, were thus wounded at the heart, observe:

Point.

That contrition in a new creature or dinarily is answerable to his former vanity.

Manasse, 2 Chron. 33.6. Mary Magdalen, Instan.

Luke 7. Augustine a great sinner, wrote 12

bookes of Repentance.

To whom much is forgiven, they love Reaf. I. much: and this is a fountaine of Evangelicall Repentance. As a traitor condemned to dye, receiving a pardon, would wonderfully breake his heart to thinke he should be so villanous to so gracious a Prince: fo it is with a Christian that beholds Gods mercy to of & athorovy waid.

Christians after their conversion de-Reaf. 2. fire to fee their sinnes to the utmost, with all the circumstances that make them hatefull, as the object, nature, person, time, and age, &c. in which, or how they

were

3

were done, that so they may bee more men should conceive media of beldmid

If it be not fo (as it may be otherwise, for God is a free agent, and is not tyed to any proportion of forrow) then fuch troubles as these usually seaze on them.

First, they are often afflicted with this, that their conversion is not through and found, and so do not with such heartinesse and chearefulnesse performe the dities of Godlinesse.

Secondly, they are many times haunted with listlessenesse and coldnesse in their progresse of Christianity.

Thirdly, they are visited with some crosse or other that stickes by them : to make them lay a greater Loade upon Playes, that all men could not dravishing

Fourthly, they are more subject to bee overtaken with their sweete sinne, because they have no more sorrowed for it. For the lesse it is sorrowed for, the more here must bee agricument eradini

Fiftly, some of them have beene affault ed upon their bed of death with forrows former.

full and strong temptations: Not that men should conceive this is alwayes the reason of it; for God hath ends in all his workes, knowne onely to himselfe, but thus I have knowne some have beene troubled, and this may be in great mercy to make a weake conversion more Arong. Left any Christian should bee troubled at it, take notice in Contrition:

There must be sorrow of heart because

offinne.

There must bee a dislike of it in the red with liftleffencese and coldness liw

2.

3.

30

There must be a transmentation or strong reasoning in the minde out of the Word of God against sinne. This is the Sinew of Repentance, as Austin had against Playes, that all men could not draw him Hourshly, they are more subjectment or

There must be a resolution and striving and watching against it, as lob with his eye. Job 3 1. is worrol si si elle le dine H

There must bee a grieving that hee is not excellent in all these, and herein hee must make up what hee wanteth in the former.

Christians; some are more eminent in one part, some in another, as foseph had little sorrow, but a strong Resolution, because hee had so strong a temptation, and withstood it; he had strong reasons beyond nature to resist sinne, and resolve against it, so that it is not so much the measure, as the truth of every part that is required. But if they be not in an excellency in great sinners, they are to mourne for the want of them. To helpe herein, observe these ten degrees or Acts of repentance, or rather helpes to Humiliation.

Get a sight, and survey, and full ap- 1. Att.
prehension of all thy vilenesse, iniquities,
transgressions, and sinnes, the number and nature of them.

Get a right apprehension of GODS 2. 44., wrath and siery indignation, and the pure eye of God against sinne.

Get a sense of the unspeakeable mise- 3. All.

Ty thou art lyable to by reason of sinne.

Get a base esteeme of thy selse.

4. All.

3 2 ... Tedtor Get

Get an inward forrew of heart and Christians forteare meshuol ognibeslde

Get an outward bewailing with heartpeircing confession.

Get an hatred and aversion in thy will from finne. her who the bad ad book

8. Att. Get a strong reasoning in thy minde against sinne. formuch som ain i sait of at

9. Al. Get a sincere opposition in thy life, to

10. Att. Get a sincere grieving that thou canst doe these things no better. Now for the

1. All. first Act, (viz.) Get a sight and survey, and full apprehension of all thy vilenesse, iniquities, transgressions and sinnes, the number and nature of them; for which purpose take these three helpes.

1. Helpe, First, keepe the eye of thy naturall con-

science cleare.

Secondly, be acquainted with all the 2. Helpe. wayes thou canst possible to anatomize

Thirdly, take notice of the guilt of o-3. Helpe. riginall sin, because a Christian may have his heart locked up more at one time than at another. For

For the first of which (viz.) the kee- 1. Helpe.
ping of the eye of the naturall conscience
cleare, observe:

First the rules of the Heathen that ne. 1.

ver did know Christ.

Secondly, the indowments of the Hea- 2.

Thirdly, the common notions of na-

ture which were in the Heathen.

For the first (viz) The rules of the Hear 1.

then that never did know Christ, as in—the Heathen.

stance in: Lying, besides the Word of Revel, 22,21.

God which banisheth it from Heaven,

by the light of naturall reason Aristotle
saith, Alse is evill in it selfe, and cannot
be dispensed withall; and the reason of
it is this: wee have a tongue given us to
expresse the truth; now if our tongue tell
more or lesse than our minde conceives, it
is against nature.

Ribald talking, of which many make a sport, and rather then they will lose a lest, they will venter to damne their soules. Epistetus saith, It's dangerous to digresse into obscenity of speech.

Com-

Cowardize in good causes, thinking it good sleeping in a whole skinne: Aristotle Ethic. 3. cap. 1. that in some cases a man had better lose his life than be cow-

ardly.

Drunkennesse; the dayes be so drowned in impiety, that if a man be not drunke every day, hee will take it in a great disgrace if he be not counted an honest man; whereas Seneca saith, it is but a raging madnesse, and if he should behave himselfe so but two or three dayes, as he doth when he is drunken, men would count him mad.

Mourning immoderately for losse of

wife or children.

Passions of anger; Morall Philosophers have many excellent rules, the which if a natural man would take notice of, he would never be so passionate, for they say it ariseth first, From a great weakenesse of spirit. For were hee manly, hee would passe by those things with scorne: whereas he shewes himselfe to be of an esseminate spirit and impotent affecti-

ons.

goc

goe home to Rome to treate with the Senate for a commutation of Captives, Carthaginians for Romanes, of whom himselfe was one. Comming to the Senate, he gave weighty reasons to difficult fivade them from commutation; so as chusing rather to abide the certaine cruckly of his enemies, than to breake his faith and promise, he returned, where nee was most cruelly used of them; By whose example Christians might bee ashamed that make no matter of break king their promises.

28 Instan. Fabricius attained to that height of excellency, that it was fayd, A man may as soone pull the Sunne from its Spheare, as that man from his honest and just dealing.

Instance.

Cato was so excellent, that it is sayd; he did not good for seare, shame, profit, &c. but because goodnesse was so incorporated into him, that he could not doe otherwise.

Inftance.

Cambyses stood so stricktly against bribery, that a ludge being taken in that crime, he flayed him, and set his skinne in the seate of Iustice, and let his sonne leane thereon that hee might hate that vice.

law for adultery, that who foever was Instance. taken in that fact should have his eyes pulled out; now his owne some being taken in that fault first, because he would not violate his owne decree, he pulled out one of his some eyes, and one of his owne.

Thirdly, observing the common 3.
notions of nature, which were in the Common notions in Heast Heathen: as,

All good is to be done.

All evill is to be avoided.

Kinde is to be propagated.

Do as we would be done by.

God is to be honoured, from whence 5.

ariseth this objection, namely: Is not this 2nest.

notion extinguished in them that deny

God?

Not utterly, but it generally dwels in Anja. them; so farre onely they have use of it, as

C 2

6.

1.

to leave them without excuse, Rom. 1,

A mans life is to bee preserved: Now selfe preservation is so ingrafted into the blood and veines; that therefore the selfement functions.

as Against God the Father.

Against God the Sonne.

Against God the holy Ghost

Against the light of nature.

God the Father, who commandeth, Thou shalt not kill, and so thou sinness:

destroyest it.

Against his Soveraignty; for,

He hath appointed thee to worke in his vineyard, and thou wilt rather dye, &c. as if hee were a hard Master, that thou darest stay no longer in his service.

Thou dishonourest him, and gratisi.

eft his enemy.

Hee hath planted thee as a tenant at will in this earthly tabernacle, and thou beatest it about thy eares.

Thou

Thou sinnest against God the Sonne: Against God the Sonne.

Thou art none of thine owne, thou art bought with a price; this will helpe thee against the Divels temptations; for when he comes to tempt thee to that sinne, say, Thou art anothers, and not thine owne:

Thou maymest Christs body in taking away a member of it.

Thou finnest against God the holy Ghost, for,

Thou pollutest thy soule with blood, and

It is the office of the Spirit to dwell with us; and,

It is the office of the Spirit to invite us to taste of the good blessings of God, as Esay 55. Oh! but my soule is blacke object. with sinne, &c. This is the action of the soi. Spirit to reveale this unto thee.

Thou sinnest against the light of na- 4ture most cowardly, and against forti- light of natude, thou sinnest against the kingdome; ture,
against thy neghibour, thy family, and

C3

thy

thy felfe, and puttest thy selfe among the sorrowes of the divels, which is a Bedlam madneffe.

2. Helpe.

Bee acquainted with all the wayes thou canst possibly, how to anatomize thy sinnes; for which purpose take these methods and helpes.

Method.

Bee perfect in the Law of God, and looke thy selfe in the pure Cristall glasse thereof; bee throughly catechifed in the Commandements, as in the fourth Commandement; wherein consider.

Preparation.

Celebration.

Preparation, which confifts,

In praying;

Publiquely with thy Family, Privately with thy selfe.

In examination.

In renewing thy repentance.

In covenanting with thy thoughts to spend that whole day in holy things.

Celebration.

It may befor scandalous sinnes in thy life thou hast beene forrowfull, but thou haft

hast passed the Sabbath with many wandrings; for which thou hast not beene humbled: All these are to bee brought to thy minde with much bleeding.

An utter Cessation or abstinence from thoughts, words, and deeds; of calling, or recreation; more than for necessity, mercy, or comelinesse. 19 min maio d'internation

pollibly

Take survey of all the wrong which we have offered to all things in Heaven and Earth; all things are the worse for a wicked man, so farre as sinne can adde hurt unto them.

Take a perusall of thy selfe from top to toe. The sinnes of thy eyes; each thing Method. thou lookest on, not making a holy use of them, is a sinne of omission; consider then how many there are every day, and, if in one part so many, what are there in the whole body?

Consider all the commissions, and o- Method. manner of wickednelles for supposenti

As a Creature, how thou haft carried thy selfe to thy Creator, y laura sant bas

Method.

Resbook

As

As an husband to thy wife. As a Father to thy Children. As a Master to thy Family.

As a neighbour, to them without, or

to Gods children.

As a Subject, &c. Take notice of all the failings in all these, and thou shalt finde sufficient matter for a day of humiliation.

Method.

Labour to get (as I am perswaded every Christian hath) two Catalogues of thy sinnes, before conversion, and since.

Of Gods mercies, spirituall and tem-

porall.

3. Helpe.

Take notice of the guilt of originall finne. Now because a Christian may have his heart locked up more at one time than at another, let them in case of barrennesse, consider these sixe quickning points.

2 nick. Point. Looke to the seede, and sinke, and naturall inclination of thy heart to all manner of wickednesse; for suppose by the mercy of God thou wert able to say, and that truely, that thou couldest not

poffibly

possibly sinde any actual sinne within thee: yet looke backe to the corrupt sountaine, and there thou shalt sinde that thou and the most holy Christian on earth, whilest thou livest in this house of slesh and tabernacle of clay, thou hast it in thy nature to sinne against the Holy Ghost, to kill lesus Christ, to commit so domy; and what hindreth but Gods free mercy? This then throughly considered, is sufficient matter to humble thee, to consider with thy selfe what a wretch am I yet, that have this seede still in my bowels.

Consider and throughly weigh the circumstances of all thy sinnes, of thy unregeneration, at what time, in what place, with what scandall, &c. As Austine saith of himselfe, he did wonderfully weepe in reading the fourth booke of Virgill when Dido was killed; what a damn'd soule had I (quoth he) that could weepe for her misery, and not for my owne? So when he listned to musicke, and to the tune in singing of a Psalme in the Church, rather

Quick. Point.

Chap. 4

Treppe

Circum-

177 1179

france,

Circa

Bance.

Ranze

CITCHER

James.

with the matter: and for being much addicted to stage-playes, and to many more, but especially for robbing an Orchard, which he aggravates by many circumstances; that great renowned Father lest this example to all posterity; whereas if a young man now adayes should but crye out of robbing an Orchard, hee would be thought simple and too precise. Looke the second booke of his Confessions, where see his sinne aggravated, by these ten circumstances.

Chap. 4.

Circumfrance.

Circum-

Circumftance.

Circumstance.

Circum-

Saith he, this theft which I committed was not onely in the booke of God for-bidden, but I had it in my heart dayly.

doeit, and I did it.

Fastidio aquitatis, I did not doe it for want, but in disdaine of goodnesse, and out of an eager desire to do wrong.

d had abundance of the same kinde, and better at home.

of I did steale them, not so much to injoy the thing, as mine owne thest, that it might be sayd of my old companions, that I robd an Orchard.

There was a number of desperate 6. Iwaggerers and incarnate Divels with Circumfrance.

Notte intempestiva, at midnight: which the aggravates with another Circumstance, when we had beene sporting and dancing, and drinking, we did it.

We carried all away.

We carried so many away, that they

were a burden to us.

When wee came home, we gave them to the swine: and then at the conclusifrance.
on, he cryes, Oh my God, behold my heart,
Ecce cor meum Deus.

If wee would looke backe on such a Sabbath breaking, how in such a place, at such a time, so inflamed with lust; If drunkards, whore-mongers, usurers, &c. would take this course, they might finde such aggravations, that by the mercy of God, might terrifie them from their evill courses.

In case of barrennesse consider, wee 2nic.

D 2 had Point.

had our hands in the sinne of Adam, and so brought all the sorrow, sinne, and damnation upon all men that are or shall be damned, and we are guilty of all the horrours of conscience. If wee had not hearts of adamant, or hewne out of a rocke, or had sucked the brest of Wolves or Tigers, we would be mooved at this, which is able to breake a thousand adamants. I speake advisedly, it is able to open a wide gap of penitent teares in the most slinty soule of the most bloody sinner.

Quic.

Cut offall sinne both Originall and actuall that thou hast taken notice of, and do but consider the impersections that sollow the best actions, the innumerable distractions of the most holy prayer that ever thou madest, the sinnes of the last Sabbath, thy deadnesse, fruitlesnesse, &c.



Remove all personall sinnes, yet consider how many wayes we have had our hands in others sins, which (it may bee) they have carried to hell with them. Wee

have.

have a world of matter from hence to breake our hearts: for wee may be guilty of others finnes 13 wayes; There is none but are guilty of some of these wayes wigor, thelacers, texivesew

First, by incouraging them, as those Prophets which cryed Peace, peace, when there is no peace, when they are but formall or civill professors, those that sow pillowes under mens elbowes, that heale the wounds of the people with faire words, when there is nothing towards, Elay 9,5:
but tumbling garments in blood, and Ezek. 13,10.
ler, 14,14. vengeance, and devouring with fire. Aske all those Ministers that reveale not the whole counsell of God, who sent them to incourage; it shall all fall to nothing; But you of this place are inexcusable, for wherein have I hid any thing from you? No, I dare not be guilty of any mans blood that way, for the damnation of my foule.

By provoking; as Job's wife sayd to 10b. 2,9. him, Curse God and dye: So, Fathers Eph.6,4. provoke not your Children to wrath, for

they

they then are guilty of their finnes.

By familiarity with sinners, with company keeping. If thou vouchsafest thy company to Alchouse haunters, to prophane persons, Idolaters, to Gods enemies; looke for that sharpe checke which

the Prophet gave to Jebosaphat for as-

fociating himselfe with wicked Ahab, fay-

ing: Shouldest thou countenance the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? Therefore is

wrath upon thee before the Lord. Or as Pfalm. 50,18. When thou sawest a theefe, thou consen_

tedst with him, and hast beene partakers with adulterers. Therefore as Moyses sayd to the

people, Separate your selves from the Tents of

Corah, least ye perish with them: And, Come out of Babylon, my people, have no communion

with that Whore, least yee perish in her sinnes,

and be destroyed with her plagues, Rev. 18.Da-

wid saith, I have not dwelt with vaine persons, nor will I have fellowship with the ungod-

ly. Odi Ecclesiam malignantium. And who

would vouchsafe to let their love runne

on such in this life, from whom they must

be separated in the world to come? But

for

for workes of thy particular calling, as buying, selling, salutations, &c. we must have these, or we must out of this world, as I Cor. 5, 10, 11. Way Histor bandani and

By participation, Thy Princes are rebellious, and companions of theeves: so Magi-Es,1.23. strates which execute not their office, are guilty of all the sinnes which the people commit within the compasse of the time of their governement, and they are all set on their score, without repenraended Herodforhis oracion

By silence when thou hearest a good man traduced and sayest nothing; especially dumbe dogges; every Sabbath is a bloody day to them, for their silence is cause of all the iniquities done that day, and all these things which they doe a misse, whether by swearing, Ale-house haunting, &c. all are fet on their score: so all those that are faint and cowardly for Gods glory and truth.

By defending: Wee to them that call darkenesselight, and light darkenesses There Esy 5,20. fore if any by quickenesse of wit will la bour

bour to maintaine usury, bribery, &c.

they are all guilty of those sinnes.

By Counselling, as Iesabell counselled

1 Kings 21,7 her husband to kill Naboth. Or as those

Wis. 2, 9. Who say, Come, let us crowne our selves with

rose buds before they bee withered, let us all bee

partakers of our Wantonnesse, &c.

8. By commanding, as David command2 Sam. 11,15. ed Vriab to be set in the fore-front of the
battell, and therefore guilty of his death.

By commending, as those that commended Herod for his oration, saying, It is the voyce of a God; they were guilty of his sinne in taking honour from God.

By connivency, as Ely winked at his sam.3.13. Sonnes; for which you may see what a fearefulljudgement fell upon that house for for bearing them. If we had no other sinnes in a day of Humiliation, it were able to breake the hardest heart; but especially for Masters of Families, who winke at their children and servants swearing, Sabboth breaking, &c. If these benot guilty of the former sinnes, yet they are guilty in not praying with them,

and

and bringing them to extraordinary exercises.

By consenting; as Paul bewayled that 162 he carried the cloathes of them that slew Act 22,20.

Stephen when he was stoned:

By not forrowing for them: David pfal, 119.
Thewes what Christians ought to doc. 136.
Pfal, 136.

By not praying against them, for the Mar.3.5.

suppressing of them.

Consider the sins of the times; Davids eyes gusht out with teares to see men Quicker transgresse the Law. So Lots heart was parties, vexed dayly with the sinnes of the people amongst whom hee lived, 2 Pet. 2, 8. And blessed are they that mourne, so Math. 5, 4.

Observe these severall branches well, and thou shalt sinde sins enow to mourne for words and the series of the people and thou shalt sinde sins enow to mourne

Now for the 2 Act, viz. A right apprehension of Gods wrath and sierce indignation, and the pure eye of God against sinne. Now the Christian oftentimes complaines, that he cannot apprehend Gods wrath sufficiently. Let him take these helpes.

The

gainst sinne; for which,

He threw downe the Angels from
Heaven to bee Divels for ever, (which
might have done him abundance of glory) and that, as some thinke, but for a
thought

For but eating an apple, which some count a small fault, heccast Adam out of Paradise, and sent a world of misery upon him and his posterity.

the infinite purity in God, not to abide finne.

Hee burnt Sodome for those very sinnes now reigning amongst us.

Herejected the Jewes which were his most deare people: for they so provoked GOD, that they are now no nation, and his wrath hath so fiercely seized on them, that they are most cursed vagabonds, and so have beene a thousand sixe hundred yeares.

Consider, he hath created horrour of conscience which is a hell upon earth, for the

the punishment of sin; but above all, the torments of hell, that woefull place and state prepared for the wicked, where the greater part of the world shall be howling for ever. 100 boy to ordands amin mo o

Consider how hard a thing it is to get 2. Helpe. pardon for sinne, in that the Iustice of God, was hard to be satisfied. Imagine all the world were turned into a maffe or lumpe of gold, the stones of the streets into precious pearles, and the Sea and Rivers all flowing with liquid streames of most pure gold: they would not satisfie the wrath of God for the least sinne: if all Mic. 6.7. the Angels and creatures in heaven and earth had joyned together and made one fervent prayer for mans sinne, nay if they had offered themselves to have beene annihilated, it could never have beene effected, nay, if the Sonne of God him. selfe should have supplicated his Father with most earnest intreaties, hee could not have beene heard unlesse he had taken our flesh upon him, and suffered what divels and men could imagine to inflict

inflict upon him. Which well confidered, there is infinite cause to bring us to a sense of Gods wrath, that he should lay, and suffer such infinite torments to be on him, that he cryed out unto God, My God, my God, why hast thou for saken mee? Though hee loved him infinitely as hims selfe, yet he would have his suffice satisfied.

3. Helpe.

The unresistable comming of God against sinners, though he is wonderfull ready and easie to be intreated whilst hee wouchsafeth a day of visitation; But if men will withstand the day, then hee comes in devouring rage; and his wrath being once kindled shall burne to the bottome of hell; then his Arrowes shall drinke blood and eate flesh, Hosea 13,8. then will hee meete them as a Beare robbed of her whelpes, and teare in pieces when there is none to helpe, Psal. 7, 2.

2. And Esay 66, 15. is set downe the manner of his comming, with Chariots like a whirlewinde.

4. Helpe.

Gods holinesse, which opposeth sin,

and

and is contrary to it, that hee lookes not on the least sinne with the least allowance.

Get a sense of the unspeakeable mise 3. 18.

ry thou art lyable unto by reason of sin,
for which purpose consider all thy sinnes,
with their circumstances, as of times,
past, present, and to come.

Looke backe upon all thy sinnes past Time past. that ever thou committedst, all thou hast beene guilty of ever since thou wast borne, originall, or actuall, knowne, or unknowne, of thought, word and deede; They are written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond, not to bee raced out: they are all upon Record, and now lye as so many sleeping Lyons; gathering strength and vigour against fuch time as the Lord shall awake the conscience; and then they will appeare and rent thy soule in pieces. I say, let naturall men consider of this point, and they shall see themselves miserable; for there are some for a small sin put to such frights, as they could not bee comforted

in

in a long space, as some who having an adulterous project, without any actuall pollution; and others who having found atrifle, and made no conscience to restore it; by the light of naturall conscience, knowing they did not as they would be done by, were put into unspeakable horrour; And some who having an unworthy thought of God, were put into such amazement, that they wisht they had never beene. If these for fuch small things (in mens account) have come to such a passe, that they tooke no delight in any earthly thing, but are put to their wits end, ready to make away themselves, wishing themselves annhilated; then what tearing of haire, what horrour of conscience will seize upon thee on thy bed of death, with what a gashly countenance wile thou looke upon that blacke and hellish Catalogue of all thy sinnes? as lies, oathes, raylings, scoffings at Gods people, rotten speeches, bedlam passions, goods ill gotten, time ill spent, prophanation of Sabbaths, and killi ng

killing Christ at every Sacrament, as all naturallmen doe; These shall bee summoned before thee, and charged upon thy conscience by the just God; then confider in proportion what horrour will be in thine heart, no heart can conceive it, nor tongue of men and Angels utter it. Now then attend, and let none bleffe themselves and say, I never felt this misery, therefore it shall never hurt me; Itell thee, it is the perfection of thy misery that thou artinsensible ofit; to be soule-sicke and feeleit not, is the complement of miserie; and the reasons why thou canst not see it, are these seaven. over noques

The divell, while thou art his, will Reason 1. not trouble thee; hee is a Politian of als most fixe thousand yeares experience; and knowes if once thou fee thy finnes hee shall lose thee; therefore hee blindes

Thy conscience is hull'd asleepe with carnall pleasure, and worldly contentments.

A bucket of water is heavy on earth, Reason 3.

Reafen 2.

in

in its owne place it is not so. When men are meerely naturall, sinne is in its owne place, and the weight is not felt.

4. Reaf.

The conscience of a natural man is like a wolfe in a mans body; while its fed with carnall friends, good fellowship, some great businesse of the world, &c. its quiet; but take this away, and then its felt.

5.Reason Eph.2,1, A naturall man is spiritually dead, and a dead man seeles no weight you know.

6. Reaf.

He lookes on fin through false glasses, as upon covetousnes and usury, through the glasse of good husbandy; so prodigality through the glasse of liberality.

7. Reaf.

For want of consideration, If wee would by our selves consider when the Minister present Sabbath breaking, or any other sinne, and say, This is my case, but now by the mercy of God I will bee humbled; this would much helpe us to see our misery.

Thou hast had thy hand in murthering many

many a soule; all thy drunken companions, thy brethren in iniquitie, many peradventure with whom thou hast conversed, are dead, and in hell long agoe, thou are guilty of the damnation of their soules. Cain was a cursed man, and had a brand upon him for killing but a man, then how will the murthering of so many soules affright thee, if thou hast beene a meanes to set them to Hell? as,

For thy wife; thou shouldst have lived with her as a man of knowledge.

For thy Children, thou shouldst have catechised them, and brought them up in religion.

For thy servants, it may be thy example hath made them sweare, lye, &c. How will their soules curse thee in the pitte of hell, and curse that time, that ever they first saw thee? But no carnall man will believe this till they feele it.

Thou hast beeene the slave of Sathan, worse than a Turkish Gally slave all thy life; for when thou mightest have beene Gods Free-man, and wouldest not, the

divell hath bid theelye, sweare, breake Gods sabboth, &c. and thou hast obeyed him, and beene the divels drudge. The Turkish fetters are but cold iron at the worst, but thine bee invisible chaines of eternall damnation. Hee scourgeth thy naked foule with invisible scorpions, feeds thee every day with fire and brimstone. When thou art out of the Turkish flavery, thou mayest beea man againe: but here Sathan scourgeth thee, and thou feest it not, hee feedeth thee with poyson, and thou tastest it not: And shortly he will locke thee up in perpetuall torments, where thou shalt never be freede from Divels. Vanis Blanky 191

For prefent

First, now thou art in health, thou thinkest all is well; but know to the contrary, whilst thou art but naturall, and unconverted:

Thou dishonourest God in a high degree, thou provokest the glory of his pure cye every day by every sinne thou committest.

Thou tramplest under foote the blood

2:

Helpes to Humiliation.	35
of Christ in every Sacrament, if thou	,1
nesse of minde, slavertrovnos aton flood	
The Spirit puts good motions into thy heart; as at this time it may be, thou	3.
resolvest by the mercy of God to leave all	2.
thy former wayes, and be Gods servant:	or imer
but presently thou stiflest it by worldly talke, and the old companions.	**************************************
The Angels offer to guard thee, but	4
thou refusest their attendance, and de-	
nyest to be under their protection, while	
thou wandrest out of thy wayes.	1
To Gods Children thou art as a goade	5.
in their fides. standad and standard in their fides. standard in their fides.	
Thou drawest wife and children, neighbours and all thou canst to Hell, by thy ill example, &c.	6.
The creatures thou art mercilesse un-	
to, for thy fin addes to their misery which	"
they groane under, and thou yet addest to	
their burden by thy sinne. I ve bemulated	
Thou art lyable to all the ill a man un-	2.
converted may endure, or to any finne	
that a man destitute of divine grace may	
To To	

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To spirituall hardnesse of heart, blindnesse of minde, slavery under thy lusts, searednesse of conscience, or committing the finne against the Holy Ghost.

To temporall; any thing that may be-For time tofall any man, as to be possessed of the divell, &c. I wish every naturall man serioully to consider this, for thou dying in thy naturall estate art certainly damned; and for any thing thou knowest, thou mayest dye the next moment, and then all things are thine enemies; death, which is certaine: but how, when, or where, thou knowest not. Calvin saith, Aman may dye athousand wayes in one houre. Some Physitians say, there are three hundred diseases in the body, all mortall: Besides, new sinnes have begotten new diseases; and thou mayest die suddenly by an impostume: thy house may be fired, and thou confumed by it; thy horse may stumble, and so destroy thee; a tile may fall as thou art walking, and so kill thee; an Adder under the grasse or hearbes may sting thee. Canst thou promise thy selfe

3.

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though now thou bee in perfect strength? But however, nature will end at length; Sathan then is ready to come with his utmost malice, when thou art faint and loath to depart; then hee will lay open all thy sinnes, and then the very next step is;

The Iudgement seate of Gods tribunall, where God will declare what mercy he offered thee, and the Divell will

pleade to have thee.

Then comes the eternall separation from God, and possession of those torments which are easelesse, endlesse, and remedilesse. Oh the tearing of the haire, and the gnashing of the teeth, that this will produce! especially when you consider, God every Sabbath stretched out his armes to imbrace you, and you would not. Christ offered to make a plaster of his hearts blood to cure you, but you trampled it under your feete: The holy Ghost put good motions into your heart, but you rejected them; the Minister hee

pressed hard to have you yeeld, but you withstood him. Oh the hellish cryes that these will fetch from such an heart.

Wherefore let this betimes beget in 4. Att. thee a base esteeme of thy selfe; consider,

1. Helpe Thou art worse than a Toad; nay a Toade is a faire amiable creature in comparison of thee. For first, a Toad following the instinct of nature, serves the Creatorinits kinde, it suckes up the venome of the earth, which otherwise would poyfon us: but thou art a degenerate creature and Traitor, who drinkest poyson out of Gods mercy, to sinne more against him. Thou art asworne friend to his most deadly enemy, and breakest all his Commandements. Secondly, the venome of a Toad kills but the body: the poylon of sinne kills both body and soule. Thirdly, When a Toad dyes, its misery is ended, but then thy woebegins; then thou wilt wish thou hadft beene anything but a man.

If thou hadft looked upon that man

in Math. 8. possessed with a Devill, who dwelt among the Tombes, went naked, chaines would not hold him, the Devill was so powerfull in him: thou wouldst have thought him a dreadfull spectacle of extreame misery; to have a legion of devils by computation sixe thousand sixe hundred sixtie sixe: but I tell thee thou hadst better have a thousand Legions, than one unrepented sinne; for

The devill hee can have power but over the body, and so he may over a Saint, and had over Christ to carry him to the top of a Pinnacle: but never sinne, like thine of obstinate and finall impeniten-

cie, was found in a sanctified man.

Sinne made the divell so ugly as he is, being else of an Angelicall nature; onely sinne makes him odious; therefore it is worse than either the tongue of men and Angells can expresse.

All the divels in hell in thy body, cannot doe thee one pinfworth of hurt for the salvation of thy soule: but one sinne wilfully unrepented of, and so unpardoned, doned, will damne it; so that it were better to bee possessed with a thousand Dis vells, than one sinne unrepented of, and was so poveefall in him: chbanobraquu

5. AR:

Get an inward wounding of thine heart and bleeding of foule, Where take, devils by computation fixed: 29qladalads

1. Helpe.

First, thy heart that hath beene the fountaine, or rather finke from whence have iffued many foulestreames, where all ill hath beeneforged, all evill words, raging passions, and wicked thoughts; Now then by the rule of proportion, let thy heart bee a fountaine of forrow for sinne; If Christ open a fountaine of mercy for mourners, let not us bee excluded for want of forrow. bear abam anni?

2: Helpe.

Consider the heart of Christ; he had not taken upon himselse a heart of slesh, but for sinne, which for thy sake was tilled with that singular depth of sorrow and griefe, that if all the godly forrow of all the Christian soules from the beginning of the world to the end thereof, in heaven or in earth, dead or alive, were coldoned

lected

lected into one heart, they could not countervaile the depth of his anguish. Shall then his bleffed soule fall asunder in his bleffed breaft, affaulted with all the wrath of God, and the second death? Shall his foule be like a scorched hearth; and so pressed with the flames of Gods revenging wrath, which wrung from him those bloody drops and ruefull cryes, My God, my God, why haft thou for saken mee? The wrath of God was so fierce on him, that (I say) droppes of blood fell from him: and shall thy heart bee as a stone within thy breast; and never be moved? Oh prodigious hardnesse, and worse than heathenish ingratitude!

If thy heart beenot wounded here in 3. Helpe. some measure truely, it shall hereafter be filled with such endlesse horrour, that would grieve and breake ten thousand hearts to thinke on it. Is it not better then to mourne a little here for sinne, than to have our hearts inlarged to endure unto all eternity the horrour of hell? Is any man so senselesse to thinke he shall goe to

hea-

EG.38.14.

Iob. 6,4.

heaven as in a bed of downe; and never be touched for his sinne, which is as impossible, as for thee to reach heaven with thy hand. When Hezekiah, a man perfect in all his wayes, complained and chattered like a Crane, David roared all the day long; Pfal. 32, 3. Job complained, The arrowes of the Almighty are within me, the venom whereof doth drinke up my spirit. Nay, Christ himselfe cryed out in the Agony

of his Spirit.

If thou get this broken heart into thy 4. Helpe. breast, thou shalt bring downe the glorious majesty of heaven; GOD Almighty with his chaire of State to fit in thy soule; for hee hath two habitations:

Elay 57,15.

In heaven.

2 In an humble heart.

Get this, and get all. Thou gettest true 5. Helpe. title and interest unto the passion of Christ, and all the comforts in the booke of God; the promises both of this life, and

of that to come.

Get an outward bewayling with heart-

6. AE.

2. Helpe.

heart-peircing confession: where
Consider first the practise of the Saints 1. Helpe,
of God.
They powred out teares as men water
out of Buckets.

Mary washed Christs feete with her

The Publican strucke on his breast with a sorrowfull acknowledgement of his sinnes.

Consider secondly, thy hands, and eyes, and tongue, and heart have beene instruments of Gods dishonour; therefore by rule of proportion, thou shouldst have the workes of thy hands instrumentall demonstrations of repentance; thy eyes sountaines of teares; thy tongue should utter, and heart suffer griefe.

Consider, that for outward things 3. Helpe. men will weepe teares; as for dejection from high places; losses, crosses, in wife or children, as David for Absalam: so it is with many, what wringing their hands, tearing their haire, bitter crying, &c. Then the losse of Christ, who is infinitely bet-

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7. Al.

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1. Helpe.

3.

thing in the world, this, this, how should it breake thy heart! If all Jobs troubles were on thee, and could wring one teare from thee; then one sinne should wring blood from thy heart.

Get a hatred and aversion in thy will from sinne, considering these helpes.

What sinne is in it selfe.

How God is provoked with it.

How thou art hurt by it.

What sinne is.

Sinne in it selse is fouler than any fiend in hell, because it made that so; as fire is hotter than water that is heat.

neare it. I consider of sinne here in the abstract, so its a greater ill, than the damnation of a mans soule; for when two ills sight together, that which conquers must needes be the greater; now when a man hathlyen in hell ten thousand yeares, he is as farre from comming out as ever; for the eternall duration in hell cannot expiate sinne.

79

Its

Helpes to Humiliation.	45
Its most infectious. It's compared to a Leprosie, for, me and the look	36
The first sinne that peeped into the	16
world stayned the beauty of it; no sooner sinne was committed by Adam, but the	2.
Stars seemed impure in Gods sight, the beasts were at variance, the earth full of brambles, and all things cursed.	
Secondly, it sowred all naturall, religious, and civill actions.	. Zi-
Thirdly, if a man in authority be fin- full, all under him will be infected.	3.
Sinne is most filthy, compared to the most vilethings that can be named, to menstruous rags, the vomite of dogges, &c. Nay, not any dirt, or filthy thing, can staine a Sunne-beame; but sin staines a more glorious creature, which is the	4.
Sinne is of that hellish nature, that it drawes out and takes in, to it. selfe the	5.
Sinne is full of cursed consequences: Privative. Sub and north are active. Positives amost bus dall to agged.	6.
Priya.	

Privative, losse of Gods favour; the blood of Christ; the guard of Angels;

peace of conscience, &c.

Positive, it brings all misery spirituall, hardnesse of heart, blindnesse of minde, horrour of conscience, despaire, &c. with all temporall losses and crosses here, and hereaster eternall torments of soule and body.

2. Helpe. God is provoked with it.

Each sinne is the onely object of Gods infinite hatred. His love is diversified to himselfe, his Sonne, the Angels, the creatures; but his hatred is confined onely to sinne. What infinite of infinites of hatred hast thou on thy soule, with all thy sinnes, when each sinne hath the infinite hatred of God upon it?

Each sin is against the Majesty of that dreadfull Lord of Heaven and earth, who can turne all things into hell, nay, heaven and hell into nothing by his Word. Now against this God thou sinnest, and what art thou but dust and ashes, a bagge of filth and slegme, and all that's naught

naught? And what is thy life, but a span, a bubble, a dreame, a shadow of a dreame? And shall such a thing offend such a melancholy; properly either bec

Every sinne strikes at the glory of Gods

pure eye.

Sinne is that which killed his Sonne, the least sinne could not be pardoned but by Christs carrying his heart blood to his

Father, and offering it for sinne.

Each sinne is an offence to all his mercies. This aggravated the sinne upon Eli, 1 Sam. 2,29. David, 2 Sam. 12,8,9, &c. Mercy is the most eminent Attribute of God, and therefore the sinne against it is the greater. What therefore are our fins in the time of the Gospell?

Consider how thou art hurt by it; 3. Helpe.

for

Each sinne kills thy soule, which is bet- Math, 19,26. ter than the world.

Each sinne, bring it never so much pleasure in the committing, leaves a threefold fting;

Naturall.

Tem-

naugher And what is thy lillsroquent, a

Immortall.

Naturall, after worldly pleasure comes melancholy; properly either because it lasted no longer, or they had no more delight in it, &c. That as all waters end in the salt sea; so all worldly joyes are swallowed up in sorrowes bottomelesse gulse:

Temporall, ther's labour in getting, care in keeping, and sorrow in parting

with worldly goods.

Immortall; God will call thee to judgement for it. Each sinne robbes thee of abundance of comfort. What a vaste difference do we see in conquering sinne, and being conquered by sinne? as for instance in Joseph and David: the one raissed after his conquest to much honour; the other, scarce enjoyed one good day after he was conquered; but as Ezekias, walked heavily in the bitternes of his soule al his dayes. As some Divines have sayd of Guliacius and Spira, the one is honour'd in Calvins Epistles for ever: the other af-

5:

ter his backsliding lived a while in exquisite horrour, and after dyed in despaire.

Thy owne conscience will accuse thee one day for every sinne, though now it seemes hid to thee; and thy conscience is more than a thousand witnesses; therefore thou wilt certainely bee overthrowne.

For the sins which peradventure thou livest now in, and accountest but petry and veniall, many poore soules are at this instant burning in hell for; What misery and hurt then attends on thee for the same?

Get a strong reasoning in thy minde 8. 18. against sinne: as first, these three grand reasons.

The horrour of hell; Therefore Chri-Reason I. stians wrong themselves, that will not use this as a motive; the unquenchable wrath of God shall feede upon thy soule if thou committest this sinne.

The joyes of heaven; I shall dwell with Reason 2.

God for ever, if beleeving, I make confcience

science of every sin, as an evidence and

fruite of saving faith.

Reaf. 3.

I.

2.

And above all, the glory of God: if Gods glory and the damnation of our soules were in a ballance, his glory should preponderate and prevaile, while wee preferre Gods glory above our owne salvation. Moses and Paul would have done that, although we cannot seeke it, but in and by our salvation, as the meanes is subordinate to the end.

Secondly, from every line in Gods

har tour bear you

booke:

His attributes, as

1 His Iustice.

2 His mercy.

His Iustice to terrifie sinners.

His mercy to allure us to him.

His Iudgements.

His Promises.

Thirdly, from logicall places: (See Rogers on Meditations, and in each particular consider of thy sinne)

The definition.

2 The division. The division bod

	1
7 The causes.	
As 4 The effects.	
5 The subject.	Taki.
6 The adjunct.	
7 The comparison.	
8 The contrary.	His
Fourthly, from places of Scripture.	
From examples in Scripture: How shall I doe this, and sinne against God? saith Joseph.	r.
nesse, but now ye are light, sc.	2.
From the end of all things; Seeing all things must be dissolved, what manner of men	3.
ought me to be?	
Thy soule is immortall, all the Devils in hell cannot kill it.	r.
Thy body is fraile, all helpes cannot	3,
long uphold it.	
Sixtly, from Christ. Looke upon him weeping, nay bleed.	
ing and a me To and foring thus. Sime	1,000
ing on the crosse, and saying thus; Sime	
brought me from the bosome of my Father to dye	
for it.	

Seaventhly, from the incomprehensi-H 2 ble ble excellencie of God, against whom thou sinnest.

9. Att. Get a sincere opposition in thy life to sinne.

Helpes thereto.

panions would allure thee to sinne, take this dilemma:

> Either I must repent, and then it will bring more sorrow than the pleasure did good; or not repent, and then it's the damnation of my soule.

2. Helpe.

Consider thy madnesse, which layest most desperately in one scale of the ballance heaven, the savour of God, the blood of Christ, and thine ownesoule: in the other, a little dung, pelfe, base lust, &c. And lettest this over-sway, which bringeth rottennesse to thy bones, perhaps losse of thy good name, &c.

And that thou mayst yet be further armed to withstand the assaults of thy three grand enemies, the world, the slesh, and the devill, which dayly seeke the destuction of thy soule: consider these twelve Anatidotes:

3:

Consider the shortnesse of the pleasure of sinne, with the length of the punishment; the one for a moment, the other everlasting.

Consider the companions of sinne; for one sin never goes alone, but being once entertained, it sets all the faculties of the soule also in a combustion; and so procures a spiritual judgement, if not temporall, upon estate and person.

Consider, thy life is but a span, a breath, a blast soone gone: now if we had all the pleasure in the world, yet being so soone to lose it, it's not worth esteeming.

Consider, sin causeth us to lose a greater good than that can be, as the favour of God, interest in Christ, guard of Angels, right to the creatures, &c.

Consider the uncertainty of repentance; thou mayest never have motion to repent after thou hast sinned, and so art damned.

Consider the nearnesse of death to thee; some have lived out above halfe their time, others almost all of it; young

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and.

8.

9.

and old dye fuddenly many times.

Consider one moment in hell, will be worse than all the pleasure in the world did good, though it should have lasted a thousand yeares twice told. So on the contrary, one moment in heaven doth more good than all the hardnesse and paines in good duties, or persecution for them did hurt.

Consider the dignity of thy soule; it's more worth than a world. Lose it not then for any sinne.

Consider the preciousnesse of a good conscience, which is a continual Feast. This thou losest by sinne.

Consider, thou sinnest against a world of mercies, which God hath sent to thee, as to soule, body, good name, estate, and others, that belong to thee.

Consider nothing can wash away any sinne but the blood of Christ. And wilt thou now pollute thy selfe againe, as it were to have him kill'd afresh to wash away thy sinne?

Consider, the ancient Martyres and Wor-

12.

II.

Worthies chose rather to burne at a stake, than they would sinne; and wilt thou so easily be drawne to it, or rather runne to it? Anselme sayd, If the flames ofhell were on the one side, and sinne on the other side, I would rather lye in those flames than sinne: And others would rather bee torne in pieces with wilde horses. We have as precious meanes as they, and if our hearts were as good, we should have the like affections.

Get a sincere grieving that thou canst 10. Ast. do these things no better, as considering,

Though thou hadst a thousand eyes, and couldst weepe them all out, and shed rivers of teares, and a thousand hearts to burst; yet all were not sufficient for the least sinne or vanity, either of the eye or heart: How much more when our hearts are barren and dry, had we neede to labour for this forrow?

Considering when thou hast made the best prayer, or watched most diligently over thy selfe, for the right and due sanctification.

fication of the Sabbaoth, or spent thy felfe in a day of humiliation; thou hadst neede to crye and burst thy heart against for the imperfections and failings thereof.

In this forrow, that thou canst performe good duties no better, weave up the web, what slacking in any of the rest, here make it up; and to incourage thee, thou hast this happinesse joyned with it, that though thy griefe be small, if it bee true, to cause thee to sell all that is, to part from every sinne for Christ, and take him as a husband and a Lord, both for protection, and government. Then by the consent of all Divines, it is godly sorrow, and certainly accepted in Christ.

FJNJS.

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